

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:636
ANSWERED ON:18.07.2002
GAS EXPLORATION IN MAHANADI
TRILOCHAN KANUNGO

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

- (a) the locations where Gas exploration drillings have taken up during the last three years and a number of borings made by the organizations deployed therefor;
- (b) whether exploration drillings have been started in Eastern coast particularly Mahanadi onshore and offshore regions and the names of organizations deployed for the purpose;
- (c) if not, the reasons therefor;
- (d) the zones identified and taken up for exploration, so far; and
- (e) the details of survey report of oil and Natural Gas deposits in various parts of the country so far?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM & NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR)

(a) to (e): A Statement is laid on the Table of the House.

STATEMENT REFERRED TO IN REPLY TO PARTS (A) TO (E) OF THE LOK SABHA UNSTARRED QUESTION NO. 636 ANSWERED ON 18.7.2002 REGARDING GAS EXPLORATION IN MAHANADI

(a) During the last three years(1999-2002), a total of 498 exploratory wells were drilled by National Oil Companies(NOCs) and private/joint venture(JV) companies in the States of Andhra Pradesh, Arunachal Pradesh, Assam, Gujarat, Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu, Tripura and Uttar Pradesh as also East and West Coast offshore areas of which 248 wells were oil/gas bearing.

(b): No exploratory drilling has been carried out by Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Ltd. (ONGC) and private/joint venture companies in Mahanadi offshore and onshore regions. However, Oil India Ltd.(OIL) had drilled 4 wells in Mahanadi onshore and 11 wells in Mahanadi offshore/North-East offshore in the late 1970s and 1980s, without any discovery of hydrocarbons. Exploration drilling has been carried out in East Coast offshore by the following private/JV companies:-

(i) M/s Cairn Energy Corporation Ltd., Vedecon Petroleum Ltd., ONGC, Ravva Oil Singapore Ltd.

(ii) Hardy Oil & Gas, Niko Resources Ltd. Nagarjuna Fertilizers.

(iii) Mosbacher India Ltd. HOEC, Energy Equity India Petroleum Ltd.

The exploratory drilling is continuing in the East Coast by ONGC.

(c): Does not arise in view of reply to part (b) of the question.

(d): The exploratory drilling in the Mahanadi basin will be planned based on the results of seismic survey data already acquired and fresh seismic survey data to be acquired in respect of exploration blocks awarded to NOCs and private/JV companies under various rounds of New Exploration Licensing Policy (NELP).

(e): The details of prognosticated oil and gas resources of the country are given below:-

Basin Hydrocarbon Resources
(Million Metric Tonne)

Andaman-Nicobar	180
Assam-Arakan Fold belt	3,180
Bengal	190
Cambay	2,050
Cauvery	700
Himachal Foothills & Ganga Valley	520
Kerala-Konkan	660
Krishna-Godavari	1,130
Kutch-Saurashtra	1,050
Mumbai	9,190
Rajasthan	380
Upper Assam	1,860
Deep Water	7000
Grand Total	28090